JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE TENTH CIRCUIT

IN RE: COMPLAINT UNDER THE JUDICIAL CONDUCT AND DISABILITY ACT

Nos. 10-23-90032 & 10-23-90033

Before **HOLMES**, Chief Judge

MEMORANDUM & ORDER

Complainant has filed a complaint of judicial misconduct against a district judge and a magistrate judge in this circuit. My consideration of this complaint is governed by the misconduct rules issued by the Judicial Conference of the United States, entitled *Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings* (the "JCD Rules"), the federal statutes addressing judicial conduct and disability, 28 U.S.C. § 351 *et seq.*, and relevant prior decisions of the full Judicial Council of this circuit that are consistent with those authorities.

The JCD Rules and this circuit's local misconduct rules are available to complainants on the Tenth Circuit's web page at:

https://www.ca10.uscourts.gov/ce/misconduct. Paper copies are also furnished by the Circuit Executive's Office upon request. In accordance with those rules, the names of the complainants and subject judges shall not be disclosed in this order. *See* JCD Rule 11(g)(2).

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Complainant, appearing pro se in this complaint and at various times in the underlying case, argues his civil matter was improperly removed to federal court, and—once there—the district judge and magistrate judge made erroneous rulings, abused their discretion, demonstrated bias for the defense and against him, lacked impartiality, and violated his constitutional right to trial by jury because the district judge, in a well-reasoned order, granted the defense motion for summary judgment, dismissing his case. While Complainant cites to various docket entries to bolster his allegations, a review of the complete docket does not demonstrate the impropriety Complainant alleges. Further, these claims are not cognizable as misconduct because they are "directly related to the merits of a decision or procedural ruling." JCD Rule 11(c)(1)(B); see also Commentary to JCD Rule 4 (stating that "[a]ny allegation that calls into question the correctness of an official decision or procedural ruling of a judge—without more—is merits-related").

While allegations of bias or conspiracy can state a valid claim for misconduct even when the alleged bias or conspiracy relates to a judge's ruling, *see* Commentary to JCD Rule 4, this claim fails because it is completely unsupported. The JCD Rules require complainants to support their allegations with "sufficient evidence to raise an inference that misconduct has occurred." *See* JCD Rule 11(c)(1)(D).

Accordingly, this complaint is dismissed pursuant to JCD Rule 11(c). The Circuit Executive is directed to transmit this order to complainant and copies to the subject judges and the Judicial Conference Committee on Judicial Conduct and Disability. *See* JCD Rule 11(g)(2). To seek review of this order, complainant must file a petition for review by the Judicial Council. The requirements for filing a petition for review are set

out in JCD Rule 18(b). The petition must be filed with the Office of the Circuit Executive within 42 days after the date of the chief judge's order. *Id*.

So ordered this 21st day of July, 2025.

Honorable Jerome A. Holmes

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Chief Circuit Judge